



MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR

CHILDREN

**MEETING
MINUTES
March 2, 2011**

PRESENT: K. Grunwald (staff), J. Higham, Sara Anderson, C. Guerreri, S. Baxter (staff), J. Stoughton (Chair), MJ Newman, M. Laplaca, J. Goldman, R. Leclerc (staff), F. Baruzzi (staff), V. Fry, M. Barton, E. Sofer Roberts, P. Braithwaite, A. Bloom
REGRETS: J. Suedmeyer, A. Bladen, L. Dahn, G. Bent,

ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
Call to Order	<p>Chair J. Stoughton called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.</p> <p>Minutes of the 2/9/11 meeting.</p> <p>Human Services Advisory Board-Sara Anderson will represent MAC.</p> <p>J. Stoughton announced that Emily Gresh has resigned as the Program Assistant for this grant. We will need assistance for the Community Conversation.</p> <p>M. Laplaca has offered to provide an update on the School Building project at a future meeting. F. Baruzzi reported that this will be on the Town Council agenda on March 14, with an opportunity for public comment at that time. There is information on the MBOE website. The decision on the site will be made on March 14. M. Laplaca explained that the Town Council voted to endorse the recommendation for two new schools and to send it to referendum in May. A bonding decision requires a vote of 15% of the registered voters in town. J. Higham asked if MAC should take on a role to educate voters and encourage voter turn-out for the referendum? J. Stoughton pointed out that there is not much time to do this prior to March 14, when the location of the two schools will be decided. M. Laplaca offered to assist MAC members with pulling the information together in bullet points. J. Goldman asked that this be put on the agenda for next month to look at taking a position on this issue.</p>	<p>Minutes were accepted as written.</p> <p>Thank you to Sara for serving as a representative on this committee.</p> <p>Contact Sandy if you know of anyone who may be interested in the Program Assistant position.</p> <p>S. Baxter will send out an email to our mailing list directing people to information on the website.</p> <p>J. Higham and E. Sofer Roberts offered to meet with M. Laplaca to pull together bullet points on the project.</p>
Data Team	<p>S. Baxter reported on the work with the UConn CCEA Data Team to develop a data infrastructure for our Plan. The Executive Council has approved the proposal that was submitted to create a data infrastructure for MAC's plan for Young Children. One of the team members will be meeting with the Executive Council next week to begin to implement this project. J. Goldman asked to see a copy of the proposal that has been submitted. J. Higham pointed out that this will be used to create a Community Report Card.</p>	<p>Executive Council will meet with Bill Waite next week; a plan will be developed for the consultants to work with teams.</p>

Option 1 Grant Renewal	S. Baxter reported that she is completing work on the Renewal Application which will be submitted in the next week. The application includes the self-assessment that was submitted today. Sandy still needs updates from each team on the timeline for the year for this application.	Team Leaders will get updates to Sandy by 3/4. Cross out items that are no longer valid and enter additions in a different color.
Community Conversation	<p>-J. Stoughton pointed out that this is the last meeting before the Community Conversation on March 26. We need to finalize specifics around food, the powerpoint presentation, publicity, childcare and activity for children, room logistics, and electronic needs. The following things need to be done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize invitation list. - A. Bloom offered that the old probate office is in an option for a small group meeting area. Other spaces in the Town Hall are being identified. - Need to identify where childcare will be provided; will need to be flexible in terms of the total numbers of children and adults attending. - F. Baruzzi suggested taping the portion of the meeting that is held in Council Chambers; question raised about whether or not this will capture the essence of the event. - S. Baxter thanked the Board of Ed. For including flyers on the Community Conversation in the Friday folders. - J. Higham and M. Barton have a plan for publicity for the event. <p>-Reminder to Moderators and Reporters that your training is tomorrow (3/3/11 from 4:00PM-8:00PM)</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Review invitation list and confirm for accuracy and inclusion of all of your invitees.</p> <p>Contact Sandy if you can help with logistics between now and the event.</p> <p>We will explore taping the event.</p>
Playground In Storrs Downtown	S. Anderson Reported on a meeting that was held with Cynthia van Zelm last week. She identified one area as a possible site for a playground. Cynthia van Zelm met with the Director of Planning and the developer's Project Manager about this, but it is still not clear whether or not the proposed area needs to be maintained as conservation land. S. Anderson is looking for research that supports the economic benefits of building a playground near commercial space. S. Baxter suggested doing presentations at churches as well to solicit support, or include information in church bulletins. Sara believes that there need to be 10-15 people working on this committee. Kristin Schwab, a professor in landscape architecture at UConn, will be working with the Planning & Design Committee on developing an overall plan for public and green spaces in the downtown.	
Other	J. Higham reported that analysis of the Community Connectedness survey will not be available until some time in May. J. Goldman pointed out that all of the data is combined for all respondents and the team wants to pull out data for specific demographic groups.	Get specific questions about the survey analysis to J. Higham.
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM. The next meeting will Wednesday, April 6, 2011, Town Hall Council Chambers at 5:00 PM for Team meetings and 6:30 for full MAC meeting	Agenda topics for April: please send to Sandy

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Grunwald